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TOTNES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

ANNUAL REPORT
OF THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT
FOR THE YEAR 1966

DR. J. WILDMAN, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.P.H. (Lond.)

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

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TOTNES RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT ON THE HEALTH OF THE DISTRICT

FOR THE YEAR 1966

To the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

This report is drawn up in accordance with the requirements of Ministry of Health Circular 1/67 dated January, 1967. Included in the Report is the report of your Chief Public Health Inspector.

Three Medical Officers served your District during 1966. Doctor McQuaid was on sick leave until she resigned in April and your present M.O.H. gave "cover" for your District during that time. The Rural District was then included in an enlarged S.W. Devon M.O.H. area and Dr. R.B. Walker became M.O.H., holding office from April till October 1966 when he emigrated to Canada. Also in April Dr. Mary Budding was appointed part-time Deputy M.O.H. She is also M.O.H. to Oakhampton Borough and Rural Districts and a Senior Medical Officer on the staff of the Devon County Council at Tavistock. Your present M.O.H. was appointed "Acting M.O.H." with effect from November 1966 following the departure of Dr. Walker.

As far as I can judge from available statistics 1966 was a successful year. Deaths exceeded births but owing to an inward migration of 121 persons there was an estimated overall increase in population of 70 persons. The birth rate almost equals the National Average, and the death rate is well below the National Average. Diseases of the heart and circulation caused most deaths, with cancer as a runner-up.

Very few infectious diseases were notified, the largest number being 25 cases of measles.

The Chief Public Health Inspector draws attention to difficulties encountered with refuse collection and I would add that this is bound to happen since the work load increases each time a new dwelling comes into occupation, and in 1966 there were 189 of them. A good deal of time was devoted to Housing Act work, building inspections and drainage inspections as well as the usual variety of other environmental inspections. The 1600 or so visits these items entailed is a remarkable achievement in so large a Rural Area.

I wish to thank the staff of the Public Health Department and your Engineer for help in compiling this Report.

JOHN WILDMAN,
Medical Officer of Health.

OCTOBER, 1967

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

CHAIRMAN:	Councillor J.D. Warren
VICE CHAIRMAN:	Councillor G. Gill
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL:	Councillor C. Bartlett, C.B.E., J.P.

together with

all members of the Council

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Moira McQuaid, L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S., (I) D.P.H. Resigned April 1966
Dr. R.B. Walker. April to October 1966.
Dr. John Wildman. Acting M.O.H. from November 1966.

PART-TIME DEPUTY M.O.H.

Mary E. Budding, M.B.B.Ch., B.Sc., D.P.H.

CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

F.B. Elliott, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Department,
Follaton House,
Plymouth Road, Totnes.

Tel: Totnes 2481 (6 lines)

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

E.P.G. Bennett, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.,
Public Health Department,
Follaton House,
Plymouth Road, Totnes.

Tel: Totnes 2481 (6 lines)

CLERK/ TYPIST

Mrs. J. Evans.

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Mrs. J. Evans.

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VITAL STATISTICS AND GENERAL STATISTICS 1966

Table 2

Figures for 1965 are shown in brackets

BIRTHS:

<u>Standardised Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population</u>	...	17.400 (17.88)
Area Comparability Factor for Births	...	1.27

<u>Number of Live Births</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Legitimate	96	104	200
Illegitimate	11	8	19
Total	107	112	219
<u>Number of Still Births</u>	1	1	2

DEATHS

<u>Standardised Death Rate per 1,000 population</u>	...	9.632 (8.39)
Area Comparability Factor for Deaths	...	0.57

<u>Number of Deaths</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
All ages - Total	133	137	270
<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 yr.</u>	1	1	2
Number under 4 weeks of age	1	-	1
Number under 1 week of age	1	-	1

<u>Infantile Mortality Rate per 1,000 Live Births</u>	...	7.254
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COMPARISON WITH RATES FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

<u>Birth Rate</u> 17.7. (18.1)	<u>Death Rate</u> 11.7 (11.5)
<u>Infantile Mortality Rate</u> 19.0. (19.0) (Infants under 1 yr. of age)	

CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1966

<u>Line</u>					<u>M</u>	<u>F</u>	<u>Total</u>
	ALL CAUSES	133	137	270
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory		1	-	1
2.	Tuberculosis, other		-	-	-
3.	Syphilitic disease		-	-	-
4.	Diphtheria		-	-	-
5.	Whooping Cough		-	-	-
6.	Meningococcal infections		-	-	-
7.	Accute Poliomyelitis		-	-	-
8.	Measles		-	-	-
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases		1	-	1
10.	Malignant Neoplasms, stomach		4	-	4
11.	" " , lungs, bronchus		3	1	4
12.	" " , breast		-	7	7
13.	" " , uterus		-	2	2
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms		11	14	25
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia		-	-	-
16.	Diabetes		-	-	-
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system		15	26	41
18.	Coronary disease, angina		35	15	50
19.	Hypertension with heart disease		2	2	4
20.	Other heart disease		14	14	28
21.	Other circulatory disease		10	5	15
22.	Influenza		-	2	2
23.	Pneumonia		15	23	38
24.	Bronchitis		2	2	4
25.	Other diseases of respiratory system		-	2	2
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum		-	-	-
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea		-	1	1
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis		-	-	-
29.	Hyperplasia of prostate		2	-	2
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion		-	-	-
31.	Congenital malformations		-	2	2
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases		12	10	22
33.	Motor vehicle accidents		1	1	2
34.	All other accidents		2	6	8
35.	Suicide		3	2	5
36.	Homicide and operations of war		-	-	-

SECTION B

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES

1. Hospitals

The Rural District is served by hospitals in Totnes, Dartmouth, Paignton, Newton Abbot, Ashburton, Torquay and Bittaford.

2. Laboratory Facilities

Laboratory facilities are provided by the Public Health Laboratory services at Exeter and Plymouth. The chemical analysis of water is undertaken by Public Analysts at Exeter.

3. Mass Miniature Radiography

The Unit visited main towns in the area once a fortnight throughout the year and all persons living in the rural parishes were easily able to obtain chest x-rays.

4. County Health Services

Under the National Health Services Act, 1946, the County Council provides the following services:-

Domiciliary midwives, home nurses, health visitors, supervisory care of expectant and nursing mothers and children under five, ambulance services, vaccination and immunisation procedures, home help services and the care of persons suffering from illness or mental disorders, and the aftercare of such persons.

Nine district nurse/midwives work in the district together with four health visitors and a nursing assistant. Child welfare clinics are held at regular intervals at South Brent, Stoke Gabriel and Kingswear.

The home help service is provided by the County Council. A chiropody service has now been introduced for the handicapped, the aged and expectant mothers. Chiropody clinics are held in South Brent, Stoke Gabriel, Ashburton, Buckfastleigh and Totnes.

5. Family Planning Service

A clinic is held at the Central Clinic, Midvale Road, Paignton every first Monday of the month, 6.30 - 7.30 p.m.; every 2nd and 4th Monday, 2 - 2.30 p.m. A clinic is also held at the Adult Education Centre, Dartington, on the 3rd Tuesday afternoon of alternate months beginning in January of each year.

SECTION C

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER INFECTIOUS DISEASES

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

Table 1

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>AGE GROUP IN YEARS</u>					
		Under 1	1-	5-	15-	25-	Over 65
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1	-	-	-	-
Measles	25	1	19	5	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	1	1	4	-	-	-
Dysentery	1	-	-	-	-	1	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2	-	-	-	-	2	-
Tuberculosis (lungs)	2	-	-	-	-	1	1
Tuberculosis (other)	2	-	-	-	-	2	-

Table 2

<u>DISEASE</u>	<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>INCIDENCE BY QUARTERS</u>			
		1st	2nd	3rd	4th
Scarlet Fever	1	-	-	-	1
Measles	25	-	3	7	15
Whooping Cough	6	-	2	3	1
Dysentery	1	1	-	-	-
Acute Influenzal Pneumonia	2	-	2	-	-
Tuberculosis (lungs)	2	1	1	-	-
Tuberculosis (others)	2	1	1	-	-

INTERNATIONAL CERTIFICATES OF VACCINATION

In accordance with the requirements of the World Health Regulations 392 certificates of Smallpox and Cholera vaccinations in respect of persons travelling abroad were authenticated by the Public Health Department.

CONTROL OF TUBERCULOSIS - MASS X-RAY UNIT

The mass x-ray unit visited Wrangaton and Staverton Joinery Works during the year and examined 193 persons. A summary of details is given below.

<u>SITES VISITED</u>	<u>NO. EXAMINED</u>
Wrangaton	54
Staverton Joinery Works	139
	<hr/>
	193
	===

Cases of Pulmonary TB:-

a) Requiring treatment	Nil
b) Requiring observation	Nil
c) Inactive cases	4

Non-tuberculous Conditions:-

Cardio-vascular Disease - congenital	1
Cardio-vascular Disease - acquired	1
Bronchitis and Emphysema	1
Others of no clinical significance	1

SECTION D

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA

1. Water

Most properties in the Rural District receive a water supply from the South West Devon Water Board mains.

DWELLINGS SUPPLIED FROM PUBLIC WATER MAINS

PARISH	1965-66 Est. Pop.	No. dwellings with piped water supply (direct)	No. dwellings relying on standpipes
Ashprington	335	76	-
Berry Pomeroy	372	61	-
Buckfastleigh West	286	43	-
Churston Ferrers	2218	682	-
Cornworthy	294	41	-
Dartington	1266	89	-
Dean Prior	307	14	-
Diptford	310	77	-
Dittisham	512	171	2
Halwell	221	57	3
Harberton			
Harberton Ward)			1
Harbertonford Ward)	905	74	
Holne	354	61	-
Kingswear	706	242	-
Littlehempston	203	35	-
Marldon	1446	474	1
Morleigh	112	26	-
North Huish	359	70	-
Rattery	375	89	-
South Brent	1853	494	-
Staverton	614	98	-
Stoke Gabriel	1033	367	-
Ugborough	2087	354	1

71 Water samples were taken during the year, both by the Local Authority and the South West Devon Water Board. 35 were found to be unsatisfactory resulting in 15 sources being re-sampled. Mains water was suggested in several instances.

2. Refuse Collection and Disposal

The weekly refuse collection service has been maintained throughout the year. To achieve this target the crews had to work overtime but later in the year, when a fourth collection vehicle was brought into use, the overtime working was greatly reduced.

3. Litter Act 1958

At the request of the County Council arrangements have been made for all litter bins on lay-bys to be emptied twice weekly during the Summer months. To facilitate this a 10 cu. yd. side-loading refuse collector was purchased and a crew of two employed to operate it. A marked improvement was noted in the appearance of the lay-bys.

4. Sewerage and sewage disposal

Galampton Sewage Disposal Works:-

Construction of the new sewage disposal works is being carried out. The completion date is July, 1967.

Dean Prior Sewerage Scheme:-

The sewerage scheme for this village has been completed.

5. Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

Action here is designed to be mainly preventative as opposed to curative. This is effected in large measure by routing visits to refuse tips, sewage works and other vulnerable premises, and the annual treatment of sewers.

The Council shared the services of a Rodent Operator with two other Authorities.

6. Visits of Public Health Inspectors during 1966

Housing Grant Aid	424	Food Hygiene	19
Housing	52	Deposits and Accumulations	5
Housing re-inspection	112	Building Regulations	171
Infectious Disease Prevention	28	Slaughterhouses	2
Rodent and Pest Control	23	Animal Health and Boarding	
Meat	145	Establishments	5
Drainage	189	Knackers Yards	2
Refuse Collection and Disposal	211	Scrap Metal Dealers	2
Water	41	Offices, Shops and Railway	
Moveable Dwellings	68	Premises Act	13
Petroleum	25	Unsound Food	4
Nuisances	67	National Assistance Act	1
Waste Foods Order	5	Miscellaneous	11

7. Caravans

<u>Address of Site</u>	<u>Type of Licence</u>	<u>No. of 'vans</u>
Bathill Camp, Greenway Road, Galmpton, Churston.	Seasonal	56
Higher Greenway, Galmpton, Churston	Part Residential Part Holiday	1 3
Adjoining Blackness House, East Cornworthy	Residential	1
Lower Cobberton, Dartington	Holiday	1
The Orchard, Dean Combe, Dean Prior	Seasonal	1
Blue Post Filling Station, Harberton	Tourist/Transit	12
Leigh Bridge Cottage, Harberton	Residential	1
Littlecombe, Holne	Residential	1
Widdicombe Farm, Compton, Marlton	Residential	1
Smokey House Inn, Marlton	Residential	5
Newhouse Farm, Morleigh	Residential	1
Webland Farm, Avonwick, South Brent	Part Residential Part Holiday	4 22
Bittaford Wood, Ugborough	Residential	24
The Glen, Ludbrook, Ugborough	Seasonal	1
Folly Cross, Wrangaton, Ugborough	Touring	15
Marsh Park, Wrangaton, Ugborough	Residential	2
Edeswell Farm, Rattery	Holiday	15

Summary

Number of residential 'vans - 41
 Number of holiday 'vans - 19
 Number of seasonal 'vans - 58
 Number of tourist 'vans - 27

SECTION E

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD

1. Food Hygiene (General) Regulations 1960

Type of Shop	Total No.	No. fitted to comply with Reg. 16 (hand washing facilities)	No. of premises to which Reg. 19 applied (separate sinks)	No. of premises fitted to comply with Reg. 19
Grocery and general provisions	63	40	23	17
Bakehouses	1	1	1	1
Bread and Confectionary	2	2	1	1
Butchers	8	8	3	3
Slaughterhouses	2	2	1	1
Fish	2	2	2	2
Licensed Houses	29	26	29	27
Hotels, Inns, Cafes	43	38	43	41
School canteens	3	3	3	3
Totals	153	122	106	96

2. Inspection of Meat and Other Foods

During the year the undermentioned food stuffs were found to be unfit for human consumption:-

Tinned Fruit - 80 lbs.

3. Meat Condemned in Slaughterhouses

Beef	108 lbs.
Mutton and lamb	43 lbs.
Pork	64 lbs.

Number of meat inspections made during the year - 145

4. Carcases and Offal inspection and condemned in whole or in part

	Beasts excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number killed and inspected.	48	92	5	661	247
All diseases except TB and Cysticercosis - Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	11	-	1	16	9
% of number inspected affected with disease	5.28%	-	20%	4.1%	2.7%

	Beasts excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
<u>Tuberculosis only -</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses from which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	3
% of number inspected affected with TB					1.2%

<u>Cysticercosis -</u>					
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

SECTION F

HOUSING

1. Unfit Houses

During the year 5 Closing Orders were made and 13 were cancelled after the properties had been brought up to the required standard for habitation.

2. Improvement Grants

<u>Discretionary</u>	a)	Properties approved for grant	17
	b)	Total amount of grant	£5922.15.9.
	c)	Average per dwelling	£ 348. 0.0.
	d)	Grants paid during the year	18
	e)	Total amount	£6199. 1.0.
<u>Standard</u>	a)	Properties approved for grant	31
	b)	Total maximum grant	£5276. 1.8.
	c)	Grants paid during the year	30
	d)	Total amount	£4835. 1.10

APPENDIX A

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1966 FOR THE
RURAL DISTRICT OF TOTNES IN
THE COUNTY OF DEVON

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the
Factories Act, 1961

Part I of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health

(i) Factories without Mechanical Power
(Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6)

Number on Register	2
Inspections	2
Written Notices	0
Occupiers prosecuted	0

(ii) Factories with Mechanical Power
(Section 7)

Number on Register	47
Inspections	11
Written Notices	0
Occupiers prosecuted	0

(iii) Other Premises under the Act
(Section 7)

(Electric Stations, Institutions, Sites of Building
Operations, Works of Engineering Construction, but
excluding Outworkers' Premises,)

Number on Register	7
Inspections	7
Written Notices	0
Occupiers prosecuted	0

2. Cases in which Defects were found

See table overleaf.

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted.
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H.M. Insp.	By H.M. Insp.	
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Want of cleanliness (S.1)	3	3	-	-	-
Overcrowding (S.2)	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature (S.3)	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation (S.4)	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6)	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences (S.7)					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	1	1	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	2	-	1	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	5	5	1	2	-

PART 8 - OUTWORK

SECTIONS 133 AND 134

During 1966 there were four outworkers in the district.

Section 133

Nature of work	No. of outworkers in August list	No. of cases of defaults in sending lists to Council	No. of pros- ecutions for failure to supply lists
Making wearing apparel	4	Nil	Nil

Section 134

No. of instances of work in un- wholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Nil	Nil	Nil

